For reducing child and infant mortality, the interventions include immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases, control of deaths due to diarrhoeal diseases, control of deaths due to Acute Respiratory Infections, eradication of polio, prophylaxis against blindness due toVitamin A deficiency and essential new born care. As part of the second phase of RCH Programme, the integrated Management for Newborn and Childhood illness will be implemented in the districts in a phased manner.

Government of India have recently launched the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in order to improve the availability of and access to quality healthcare including services for Immunization and Safe Motherhood. The mission seeks to provide effective healthcare to rural population throughout the country with special focus on 18 States, which have weak public health indicators and/or weak infrastructure.

AIIMS study on child death in India

†2658. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent children born in the country die within three-four weeks after birth;

(b) whether it is also a fact that as per the survey report of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences and the National Neonatal Forum the care of newly born infants is being neglected generally in the National Healthcare Programme; and

(c) if so, the steps Government are taking to improve this condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The All India Institute of Medical Sciences have not conducted any specific survey on the neo-natal mortality rates in the country. However, a report has been published by the National Neonatology Forum, which provides situational analysis of health of new born in India based on the data published from time to time by the Registrar General of India etc. According to the analysis

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

about two-third of the infant mortality rate consists of deaths during the first month of life. Most of these deaths takes place during the first week of life. This would mean that based on an infant mortality rate of 60 for the year 2003, 60 out of every 1000 children born in a year die during the first year of life (Infant Mortality Rate). Of these deaths, 27 occur during the first week of life and another 13 occur within the first 28 days of life. Thus it is not correct to say that 50% children born in the country die within first three-four weeks after birth.

Essential New born care and management of children with illnesses during the first 28 days of life has been included as a focused intervention under the RCH Programme for achieving reduction in deaths during the first 28 days of life. Under this, the health workers and families are being trained to provide essential care to the new borns which includes keeping the child warm, initiation of breastfeeding immediately after birth and prevention of infections.

Besides this, under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme (RCH) being implemented in all States of the country various other interventions for reduction of infant mortality rate are being implemented. These include immunization against fixed vaccine communicable diseases, control of death during diarrhea, control of deaths due to acute respiratory infections; prophylaxis against vitamin A deficiency and iron deficiency anaemia, essential new born care and promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding practices.

Fatality of TB to AIDS

2659. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of people suffering from TB; State-wise;

(b) whether it is a fact that 1.8 million new infections are reported every year;

(c) if so, the details of infections reported during the last five years, State-wise and year-wise;

(d) whether it is also a fact that TB kills more people than AIDS, malaria, leprosy, etc; and

(e) if so, what emphasis Government are giving to eradicate TB?